

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO COMICEDEFOR IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208841

EXDIS, MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT REYKJAVIK 1313 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO
DATED 21 SEPTEMBER 1974:

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1313

EXDIS

DEPT PASS COMICEDEFOR, CINCLANT AND SECDEF

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS - BASE PERSONNEL RESTRICTIONS

1) THE FOLLOWING IS ACTUAL TEXT OF ORAL NOTES TITLED
"RELAXATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON MILITARY MEMBERS OF ICELAND
DEFENSE FORCE" WHICH I GAVE TO FONMIN ON SEPTEMBER 17
AND WHICH HE PRESUMABLY GAVE TO ICELANDIC CHAIRMAN
OF ICELAND DEFENSE COUNCIL TO STUDY WITH AIM OF
IMPLEMENTATION.

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BEGIN QUOTE:

1. RESTRICTIONS WERE ORIGINALLY IMPOSED DURING THE EARLY 1950'S. CONDITIONS ARE CONSIDERABLY CHANGED 20 YEARS LATER.

2. SINCE 1950'S PERSONNEL LEVELS HAVE BEEN REDUCED SUBSTANTIALLY, AND WILL BE STILL FURTHER REDUCED UNDER CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS BEING DISCUSSED.

3. THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE DEMEANING AND PARTICULARLY AFFECT THE LOWER RANK PERSONNEL. THE RANKS (E-3 TO E-1) TO WHICH THE OFF-DUTY UNIFORM REQUIREMENT APPLIES NOW NUMBER ONLY 677 PEOPLE. IT SEEMS TO US TO BE AN UNREASONABLY UNPLEASANT HARDSHIP FOR THESE RANKS TO BE SUBJECTED TO DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT.

4. THERE HAS BEEN A MARKED CLOSING OF THE GAP BETWEEN RELATIVE LIVING STANDARDS SINCE THE EARLY 1950'S. THIS, IN ITSELF, SERVES AS AN AUTOMATIC PROTECTION AGAINST THE ABUSES WHICH THESE RESTRICTIONS WERE DESIGNED TO PREVENT.

5. A RELAXATION OF RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE IN KEEPING WITH OUR JOINT CONTINUED EFFORTS TO FOSTER FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE ICELANDIC PEOPLE AND THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE.

6. WE SEEK A COMMITMENT FROM FOREIGN MINISTER THAT RELAXATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON BASE PERSONNEL WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THE DEFENSE COUNCIL IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REDUCING THESE RESTRICTIONS. (SUGGEST FOREIGN MINISTER COMMUNICATE THIS TO DEFENSE COUNCIL THIS WEEK AND ADVISE UNDER SECRETARY SISCO OF THIS ON SEPTEMBER 26.)

7. PERHAPS CALL THEM "CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS GOVERNING THE PERSONNEL OF THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE." PERHAPS THE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

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(A) MILITARY MEMBERS OF THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE WILL NORMALLY WEAR A UNIFORM ONLY WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTY.

(B) THERE SHALL ORDINARILY BE NO CURFEW RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY ICELANDIC AUTHORITY ON UNITED STATES PERSONNEL PRESENT IN ICELAND PURSUANT TO THE DEFENSE AGREEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, THE

UNITED STATES ASSURES THE GOOD CONDUCT OF ITS
PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE.

(C) AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED ON PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS GOVERNING THE IMPOSITION OF REASONABLE CONTROLS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND ON DUTY-FREE GOODS TAKEN OFF THE AGREED AREAS BY THE PERSONNEL OF THE ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE. THE CONTROLS PERMITTED BY SUCH PROCEDURES SHALL REFLECT A BALANCE BETWEEN THE INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ICELAND TO PREVENT DUTY-FREE GOODS FROM REACHING THE ICELANDIC ECONOMY AND THE INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO PURCHASE COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE GOODS FOR THEIR OWN USE AND CONSUMPTION.

END QUOTE:

2) THE FOLLOWING TABLE TITLED "MILITARY PERSONNEL SUBJECT TO WEARING OF UNIFORM WHEN OFF-DUTY (MALES ONLY)" WAS GIVEN TO FONMIN AT SAME TIME.

	STATIONED GRADE	AT KEFLAVIK	STATIONED AT HOFN	TOTAL
E-3	450	14	464	
E-2	200	5	205	
E-1	8	0	8	
TOTAL	658	19	677	

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